WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1912 Entered at the Post Office at New York as Second

Subscriptions by Mail, Postpaid. DAILY, Per Month SUNDAY, Per Year DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Year 8 80 DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Month.

Postage to foreign countries added. All checks, money orders, &c., to be made payable to THE SUN.

Published daily, including Sunday, by the Sun to the newspapers and the mails? If Printing and Publishing Association at 170 Nassau street, in the Borough of Mannattan, New York, President and Treasurer, William C. Reick, 170 Congress can constitutionally exercise the power claimed for Federal authority Nassau street: Vice-President, Edward P. Mitchell, 170 Nassau street; Secretary, Chester S. Lord, 170 by the Solicitor-General as an incident

London office, Effingham House, 1 Arundel individual opinion as an incident of the Paris office, 6 Rue de la Michodière, off Rue du Quatre Septembre

Washington office. Hibbs building Brooklyn office, 105 Livingston street.

If our friends who favor us with manuscripts and Mustrations for publication wish to have rejected articles returned they must in all cases send stamps for that purpose.

The Constitutional Right of Newsshall enjoy the privilege of transportapapers to Carriage in the Mails.

The newspapers of the United States should awaken, if they are not already indeed, whose political opinions are Supreme Court of the United States for policy? And this without recourse to a decision

It is not from some burlesque opera or from the mouth of some absurd jurisconsult in that Wonderland of topsyturvy thought which ALICE visited that there comes the amazing assertion of Solicitor-General of the United States autocratic power to limit the freedom of instructed the Supreme Court, in the the press, or to coerce its utterances, case of Kansas vs. Colorado, that "all which is contained in the following powers which are national in their sentences:

"We submit that Congress has the unrestrained power to say what in its opinion is so so revolutionary that the Supreme Court, Aurtful to the public welfare that it should not pass through the mails: and that it may enbeing subject to judicial review. • • It ceeded to put it under the heel of the surely may prescribe any conditions con- highest judicial authority? cerning the mail matter itself, whether as to size, weight, character of contents, purposes for which sent, &c.; and it may likewise prescribe conditions concerning the person depositing it in the mail, especially If the conditions attached to the sender bear some relation to the thing sent . . . If such views [those of a newspaper's owners] are expressed in the paper, Government can doubtless exclude them, rust as Congress could prohibition, anarchy or protective tariff if a majority of Congress thought such views

This was the language of a high law officer of the Federal Government, the but apprehension merely by the arro-Solicitor-General, arguing to the court gance and truculence of his words. in behalf of the unlimited power of Congress to regulate the postal service of of deciding what political opinions, Balkan situation supplied a text, is imexpressed in newspaper type, shall be the privilege of transmission from post office to post office.

The First Amendment of the Constitution declares that "Congress shall well afford to let the memories of Agadir make no law * * * abridging the grow a little fainter before attempting freedom of speech, or of the press." to imperil the peace of the world again If the Solicitor-General of the United by methods which in recent years have States is right in the propositions printed above, this precious guarantee is worthless; for it can be fullified effectually The Truth About Dollar Diplomacy. by the mere exercise of legislative power whereof the admitted province details of the service and the police at appalling length with a multiplicity of THE SUN. regulation necessary for the protection of subjects. President Taft's method of the morals in the community. The of giving Congress information on one police power is extended to the censor- important topic at a time concentrates ship of political opinion. According to are not overloaded with detail this outrageous doctrine a majority vote method is much more effective. Yes- York county will have added to his in Congress, immune from judicial re- terday he dealt with "Our Foreign Rela- establishment a bureau for the sale of view or rebuke, may close the mails to tions" in a style of masterly simplicity. newsparers advocating the prohibition Congress needed the enlightenment, for community beyond exaggeration. of the sale of liquor, just as it may close it displays at times a woful ignorance the mails to papers containing obscene of contemporary diplomacy. literature. A majority vote in Conthe traps of notorious swindlers.

The Solicitor-General's doctrine is application without straining it in the exports of the United States and con-Democratic campaign arguments or also settled international disputes and munity? documents, either in the newspapers promoted peace. The proof President or in pamphlet form, was against "public policy" it could prevent their circulation through the mails. Equally as to Republican literature, or Socialist partite mediation of the Argentine Re- for accomplished crimes. literature, or Progressive literature. public, Brazil and the United States be-The ultimate censorship and the unrestrained power of exclusion from the mails he holds to be in Congress, and staying of the warlike preparations when no judicial tribunal exists which is Hayti and the Dominicans were on the verge competent to enforce the constitutional of hostilities; the stopping of a war in Nicarrights of a free press.

In his closing argument for the free- States was thanked for its influence toward dom of the press before the Supreme the restoration of amicable relations be-Court at Washington yesterday Mr. tween the Argentine Republic and Bolivia." JAMES M. BECK pointed to DANIEL The United States can claim credit for WEBSTER'S reply to a similar proposi- persuading Peru and Chile to heal the tion years ago, when it was urged that notorious Tacna-Arica quarrel which Congress should purge the mails of American diplomacy in China has been out any affectations of the elocutionist; anti-slavery journals. "Any law," said the sport of spiteful critics of the Ad- who that ever saw and heard Robert WEBSTER, "distinguishing what shall ministration, although honest inquiry Collyer, we won't say in the pulpit but or what shall not go into the mails would have developed the fact that if the "on the platform," in the days of the founded on the sentiments of the paper Chinese people regard any nation West "yeeum," when men like EMERSON and and making a deputy postmaster a or East as their steadfast friend it is the HOLMES were content with a hard earned

If some of our contemporaries do use of American capital in the develop-of dignity and that eye of fire? What did he say? It was en

of the recent legislation asserting un-essential reforms to which China is of Federal control over the news- pledged by treaties with the United through the merely adminisrative power to regulate the mails, we advise them to study Mr. BECK'S masteriv presentation of the case in right to be free from arbitrary censorship and discriminating treatment. so so And it is proper that they should know DAILY, Per Year 6 00 that this service of championship is

legislative power to end, if sustained as

of the ordinary regulation of the postal

regulation of foreign and interstate

commerce? Does not the Solicitor-

General believe that Congress by statu-

tory enactment, under Section 8 of the

tion on the trains of interstate railways

the courts, no matter what the constitu-

When has there been so sweeping, so

preposterous an assertion of undele-

gated Federal power since a former

One German Way.

satisfied the most anxious in two na-

tions, VON BETHMANN-HOLLWEG Suc-

ceeded in disseminating not confidence

indefensible. German statesmen can

increased German unpopularity rather

attention upon it, and as his messages

"Through the efforts of American di

agua: the halting of internecine strife in

had long been a chronic casus belli.

than her prestige abroad.

TAFT submits:

tional guarantee may be!

Helping the countries of Central America to help themselves is not pure altruism, of course. Mr. TAFT has never their behalf and for their constitutional and good order prevailing in those countries the United States would receive trade benefits and maintenance of the Monroe Doctrine would become less of a problem. No one can dispute 2 50 rendered voluntarily by Mr. BECK in a and steadfast recognition of constithe fact that "patient non-intervention 75 spirit of public duty and not as an ordi- tuted authority" has been a felicitous nary professional engagement. Mexican policy, and the dollar has Where is this doctrine of absolute loomed large in it too.

States and other Powers.

Christmas Blackmail.

In another place on this page we print a letter headed "Christmas Blackmail," in which the author describes a system of petty extortion as indecent as it is notorious. We do not think he is overservice, has it not the same power over emphatic when he describes what amounts to blackmail as "rotten" and "beastly." The fact that in some instances a particularly intelligent employer of labor has won the affection of his working people and that they actually do want to give him some First Article, might prescribe that no trinket in testimony of their sentiment, person advocating prohibition, let us serves only to throw into high relief the say, or favoring a protective tariff, sordid nature of the greater number of these familiar "subscriptions."

Such impositions as these are responsible for the feeling of contempt or on ocean steamships; no person, which so many intelligent persons have for the exchange of Christmas gifts. awake, to the surpassing importance deemed by the existing majority in a custom that becomes annually more of the question just now before the Congress to be opposed to good public of a burden and less an expression of good will. In certain common cases it degenerates into meaningless competition; in others it sinks to the level of petty larceny. In none of these extravagances is present the spirit of Christmas, and, uninspired by this, the bearing of gifts, great or small, is a senseless and demoralizing practice.

Our Letter Writers.

Praise to the face is often disgrace, and it has never been the habit of THE scope must be found vested in the Con-SUN to expose itself to that misfortune. gress of the United States"; a doctrine Whereas people "amuse us when they abuse us," as some lost poet sings. But in the memorable decision rendered by we do feel a pride and pleasure in these force that opinion without its correctness Mr. Justice BREWER, promptly pro- just remarks about our daily parliament and federation of men, women and sociologists, philosophers, philologians, publicists, cynics and sentimentalists, reformers and reactionaries, visionaries and "kickers," ascetics and epi-Rarely has the German habit of makcureans, amateurs of old customs, ining even pacific official utterances emventors and destroyers of religions, ethphatic by a little sabre rattling been nologists, baseball cranks-but what's more characteristically or unfortu- the use of pretending to catalogue the nately exemplified than in the latest mighty, the charming, the curious, speech of the Imperial Chancellor. the learned, the perhaps occasionally Having only reassuring news to an- wrongheaded tribes to which nothing now exclude all papers advocating lotteries. nounce and actually reporting an Anglo- human is alien? Listen to one of many German cooperation which might have friendly voices:

"TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In THE Sun of November 29 is an editorial entitled-'Our Letter Writers." To its truth and sentiment I beg to offer a fervent Amen! For several years and many a time I have The contrast between the German been on the point of inflicting upon you a Chancellor's words and those of Asvote of thanks for the space and freedom QUITH at Nottingham or Poincaré at accorded to your letter writers. . . the United States; to the extent even Nantes, on each of which occasions the There is always something entertaining or instructive or whimsical or original in measurably to the disadvantage of the the space spared to your wise and other admissible to mails and what political German statesman and serves to explain wise letter writers. You give us all a chance opinions in newspapers shall be denied why those who are the best friends of to expose our foolishness, if we please; to write ourselves down' an ass; to share Germany abroad find the official utterwith others a good thought or humorous ances of her statesmen frequently irristory; to crack a joke; to praise our public tating and as in this instance actually servants for their welldoing; to call attenon to nuisances that should be abated: o quote a line from the poets or an ad rem passage from the classics. In a word, true to your motto, conspicuously in your letter writers' columns, THE SUN shines for all.

> "N. B. REMICE. "PINE HILL, December 2."

We beg to salute and thank once more this chorus of old and newer friends. The annual messages of the Presidents among whose opinions not the least before Mr. TAFT's accession were usu- welcome are those of occasional indignais the arrangement of administrative ally hard reading, because they dealt, tion or vehement girding at the opinions

Robinovitch.

If the bank wrecker ROBINOVITCH, who calls himself ROBIN, escapes punishthe ment, the prosecuting officer of New indulgences sinister in its menace to the

Should this betrayer of fiduciary institutions go free with the connivance In large part Mr. TAFT's message to of the authorities, notice will be served Congress is a demonstration of the that the danger now associated with gress may bar out newspapers containnecessity and beneficence of what has the less brutal forms of robbery is in daily habit with my gray soft hat is to gather the lubricant from the overhead level the lubricant from the overhead level the subway and the subway are subway and beneficence of what has the less brutal forms of robbery is in daily habit with my gray soft hat is to gather the lubricant from the overhead level the subway are tection, just as it may exclude those plomacy." The aptness of the express suspect chooses to make. Let it be which lend their advertising columns to sion the President admits. "The di- borne constantly in mind that crimes plomacy of the present Administration." of the kind committed by ROBINOVITCH he says, "has sought to respond to are never the work of one man. They susceptible of even more ridculous course." But while it has swelled the dishonest agents. Shall it become a fixed principle of criminal procedure least. If a majority in Congress should tributed to material progress in Central in this important jurisdiction that a conclude that the dissemination of America and Santo Domingo it has convenient confession will buy important jurisdiction that a convenient confession will be a convenient confession will be a convenient confession will be a convenient confession with a malfeasance, secure my arrest, indictional confession will be a convenient confession with a malfeasance, secure my arrest, indictional confession with a malfeasance confession with a mal

No service to the State, whether rendered in malice, dread, or true contrition, can meet the demands of justice plomacy several wars have been prevented in such cases as ROBINOVITCH'S if it is or ended. I refer to the successful tri- the price of freedom from prosecution

In a letter printed on this page this morning the Rev. Dr. MINOT JUDSON of the boundary dispute between Panama SAVAGE gives a memory or two of ROBERT and Costa Rica to peaceful arbitration: the COLLYER, that fine old "athlete of Gop." as the medievalists might have called him Mr. COLLYER lived so long as to survive the generations that knew him; and dying he is but a name to a time busy Honduras. The Government of the United with so many noisier names.

It can do no harm or good, perhaps, if some of the aged among us dwell for a moment on that stately presence, that kindled and kindling eye, that face of power and benignity, those locks that time had to silver turned when present patriarchs were in knickerbockers, that clear voice of the born orator but withjudge I should say is expressly unconsti-tutional."

or Fast as their steading friend it is the \$50 a night, and an occasional night at that to be passed in the spare bed whose trutional." ministration has been to encourage the warming pan-who can forget that front What did he say? It was enough that,

professing for years unpopular opinions, he looked like some great saint and doctor of a church not his. Remembering him, Are the Foundations of His Faith Shifting Some we think for no reason of another "lyceum lecturer," WENDELL PHILLIPS, the most suasive and polished of Ionian orators, a brow of honey and a heart of bitterness pretended that it was. With prosperity inextinguishable, bland, Quakerish, gentle, terrible without noise.

There was a giant or two in the prime of ROBERT COLLYER.

The Greeks on their side seem to fear the Bulgars bearing gifts, particularly peace offerings.

The news that Switzerland is collecting war supplies doubtless forecasts a determination at Berne to demand a Swiss non-interference in the Balkans.

The angleworm is a thinker.-Newspaper Headline And, compared with some humans,

splendid thinker, the angleworm. "Half the world to go insane."-Dr. HYSLOP

Doesn't the good Doctor mean other half? It begins to look as if the Hon. Wood-ROW WILSON would carry Bermuda too.

In another column a clever Albany correspondent who seems to have a knowledge of and sympathy with the country minister, imagines, a little irreverently perhaps, the unhappiness of that much enduring man at the loss of the doctrine of eternal damnation. Well, it is a loss which would have broken hearts of the secular or ecclesiastical, has any right to complain that there is not "hell" enough visible in this world. Fighting it to the end of his days and strength, bringing up a large family on a meagre income, the country parson has more than enough to do without worrying about doctrinal changes; and he finds the Devil doing even more than the usual full perhaps amount of business at the old stand.

THE CABINET.

Nobody Has "Claim" to a Seat in It; the President is Solely Responsible.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Much being said in the papers nowadays about the "claims" of different people to be appointed Cabinet officers. It is a misconception that should be cor-

rected. No one has a "claim" to be ap-pointed a member of the Cabinet. The President, and the President alone, selects the members of the official family forming his Cabinet and, subject to confirmation by the Senate, is responsible to no one. Political leaders have no "claim nembers of the Cabinet are representatives of the President in the departments over

President-elect Wilson is not called upon to consult any one as to whom he shall select for members of his official family. He will be and should be held entirely and absolutely responsible for the selections he shall make. He is entirely free and unrammelled and the selections he makes

But he should remember that the country rill hold him responsible for proper and suitable appointments, and in a way it is strength and confidence to his administration. Just at this time it is a subject of grave importance, and President-elec-Wilson should strive earnestly and wisely to meet the expectations of those whom he expects to strengthen him when in office NEW YORK, December 3.

BUILD DOWN, NOT UP. Mighty Cavern, Park Roofed, for the Equitable Site.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir. percentage of their value. But it is not ecessary that the entire value of the site be taken

A subterranean safety deposit building should be built that would leave the site. except for a one story entrance building, entirely clear at the street level, to be made into a park. There is no building in the city that is built for this single purpose of safe storage. Vaults devoted to that purpose are adjuncts of some other construction, and while affording great security do not afford so much as a structure devoted en-tirely to the one object would. Such a structure could be made impregnable to all assaults, whether of nature or of man It would be a very simple matter to lay out a building of this kind, to calculate i

cost and its rental value and to compare these with the cost and rental value of the proposed thirty story structure. ference would be the sum that the city should bear for the use of the surface park. It would be less by far than if the site were appropriated outright.

ARTHUR DILLON. NEW YORK, December 3.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I also am o skyscraping style of architecture, being several inches more than two yards in altitude. My that controls the operation of the subway ca

I have also a very close acquaintance with signs, &c., but count myself as fortunate that the mpressions are not monotonously transmitted to the same spot. Submission of my cranium to a phrenologist would reveal to him a collection of contradictory bumps that would put his science to a severe test.

nent, trial, conviction and imprisonment, if no on evidence then on grounds of my personal appearance. The present time seems unfavorable for the righteous. I have within two days discovered with horror that the cells and cots in Tombs are not constructed large enough for prominent people. Vain have been my at-tempts for half a dozen decades to lie abed on

In eventualities I shall demand an adjustable rextension bed, with a corresponding elastic sattress, and blankets of a length so as my feet shall have no cause to look me reproachfully in

NEW YORK, December 2.

he bias, cut gore or diagonal.

The Preference of One Reader. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: An old woman, an omnivorous reader, a one time newspaper woman. I feel that I am entitled to an opinion, and I want to say that in The Sun of

to-day I have read the best, most interesti most individual, most progressive and signifi-cantly suggestive and sentient newspaper I have ever in my life read.

From first to last the paper to-day was a de-light, and I for one do heartly thank you editors and workers for it. (Mrs.) J. N. FINCH. NEW YORK, December 1.

An Autograph With a Sentiment

From the Independent The following lines, so apt to-day, are pre-erved in one of the glass cases in the Grand Army if the Republic Hall, Public Library Building, hicago, and as far as known have never been rinted.—Editor.]

cd.—Editor.]
Though woman never can be man,
By change of sex, and a' that,
To social rights, 'gainst class and clan,
Her claim is just, for a' that,
For a' that, and a' that,
Her Eden slip, and a' that,
In all that makes a living soul
She matches man, for a' that. BOSTON, JANUARY S. 1875.

THE COUNTRY MINISTER.

Beneath His Feet?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir! In view of the changes in scriptural interpretation that are being suggested quite frequently in these days by conferences and societies of earned men who are presumed to know what they are talking about it occurs to me that the time is ripe for a country ministers' forward

We have been so busily engaged in financing propagandas in behalf of men and religion that we have quite overlooked the country minister who is called to preach the gospel along the rural free delivery routes on a salary of \$450 a year.

In these days the minister of a small country parish never knows, even ap-proximately, what to expect. His path window on the sea" as compensation for is full of pitfalls. His life is one of perils and rude surprises. While stretching out his hands for the ancient donation his foothold is threatened by the shifting foundations of his faith. He goes to bed when the day's hard work is done strengthened in spirit by the comforting thought of everlasting flames for the wicked; he arises in the morning to discover that there s no hell, that it has been abolished overnight by a learned conference that has n

The country minister is a martyr. As a sectarian he asks for bread and is given stone; as an old fashioned Christian he asks for a tangible hell of fire and stone and is given a state of mind; as a human being he asks for a payment on his back salary and is given a second hand overcoat and a pair of fur mittens. Truly his life is not a bed of roses. But it is not the lack of worldly prosperity that turns his hair prematurely gray; it is the haunting fear that without a moment's warning the foundations of his faith may be kicked

Consider his plight. In the morning we old race of Protestant divines, but nobody, in the kitchen his wife is busy over the washtub; on the table are the remnants of the last donation; three youngsters are digging in the sand behind the woodshed on his way to the little schoolhouse down by the cheese factory. We see him again at night. The day's

work is done and wife and children have He is alone in the sitting room reading the Good Book. Reverently he turns its pages; he reaches the sixteenth chapter of Luke and his face reflects the spiritual ecstasy that thrills him

The parable of Lazarus and the rich man! Here is justice, stern and terrible-justice for the man who on earth was always clothed in purple and fine linen and fared sump uously every day, and justice for the poor beggar who was laid at his gate. man in torments, lifting up his eyes in hell and seeing the poor man in glory. He reads the wonderful parable again and again with infinite satisfaction

We see him once more on the following day as the family gathers about the dinner His oldest son is reading the weekly table. paper that has just been delivered by the rural mail carrier. Suddenly the boy utters a peculiar cry. "What's the matter, Calvin?" inquires his father anxiously replies Calvin, gulping audibly "there ain't no hell; they've cut it out!"

The blow falls like a thunderbolt from clear sky. No hell! He cannot grasp the hideous import of the words. has preached it for twenty years, found in it a solace for the world's injustic "sensed" it a thousand times in his bitter experiences.

It is too much for him to bear. He gropes his way into the sitting room, where he can be alone with his grief.

From that time on he is a changed man. Life has lost its zest. His spirit is broken, and soon it is whispered that his salary is to be reduced because he no longer preach with his old time fire and vigor.

You may compel a country minister to mortgage his household goods to buy the necessities of life; you may put him out in the road, bag and baggage, for nonpay-ment of rent; you may refuse to help him give decent burial to his youngest child wher diphtheria lays hold upon his family-and all these things he will endure with Christian fortitude. But when you rob him of his hell you break his spirit, you kill the hope great value of the Equitable property makes that makes his life bearable, you strike a a park there seem an extravagance, even fatal blow at his sense of justice beyond for New York. As a matter of fact if the cost were assessed on neighboring benefited rugged character; his life is full of hardships properties the assessment would be a low and stern privations, and he demands an orthodoxy that is somewhat in accord with his environment. The pink tea variety may do for the smug soothsavers who half closed eyes that turn neither to the right nor to the left ride to their pulpits in limousines, but it will never satisfy the lowly apostle of the wrath to come whe tackles the Devil wherever and whenever he meets him without regard to conse SIMON CREEL.

quences. ALBANY, December 3.

SOME BROOKLYN LOAFERS. An Unwelcome Ingredient of the Home Borough's Population.

menths gangs of thugs in the vicinity o Adams street and Flushing avenue have been making life miserable for the residents of this section of Brooklyn. The police have had orders to make more frequent raids on the loafers who insult women and hold up pedestrians in the vicinity of Myrtle avenue after midnight.

A number of suspects have been caught in the police net and locked up. It is said that some of these toughs have been arrested before and

when released have resumed their old habits. The police have been gunning for these gangsters for some months, but seem unable to catch the guilty ones because the gangsters are wise enough to lie low while a patrolman is within hailing distance

Young men feigning intoxication have picked he pockets of many a would-be Samarita They reel along the gutter's edge and the sym-pathetic passerby tries to lead them back to the sidewalk. The fakers then manage to get their hands in the pockets of the helpers. s not until hours later, perhaps, that the loss o money or jeweiry is discovered.

Acts of violence have become so frequent in the vicinity that the District Attorney has taken

hand and he has detailed several of the dete tives in his own office to investigate certain ssaults and murders that have just occurred. CITIZEN.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: A book en-tied "In Defence of America" has recently been written by a German, namely, Baron Von Taub and is now on view at our circulating libraries. It is very well intended, no doubt, but as the author is evidently an intelligent man it's a wonder it did not occur to him to ask himself: Does America need defence? NEW YORK, December 3.

On With the Dance. Former Speaker Cannon states that he does not intend to do much in Congress this winter but expects to do a great deal of dancing, having a débutante granddaughter. Current tiem.

He's been a statesman forty years. A czar for half a scor But he is tired, it appears.
And finds the thing a bore. And therefore has resolved to stop And follow Mr. Turveydrop.

The floppy frock he casts aside With a disdainful shrug.

And eke the black felt, once his pride.

Behold him in a "plug" And togs whose cut awakes surprise And dazzies the beholder's eyes!

And that projective black eigar Erst clenched between his teeth And fondly cherished near and far. Lies listless in its sheath. Replaced, though this is rumor yet, By an Egyptian cigarette!

Conceive him as in patent pump He trips the saraband Observe his not ungraceful hump. Lame duck, forsooth! Why, like as not. He'll hit up next the turkey trot

MAURICE MORRIS

of a Great Servant of God.

THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: great, good man has fallen asleep. But he

From one who has known him most intimately for many years you may like a reminiscence or two of Robert Collyer. He came to this country from Yorkshire, a blacksmith and a Methodist hor He was working near Philadelphia. Dr. Furness, minister of the Unitarian

church in Philadelphia About that time the late Moncure D. NECESSITY IMPERATIVE Conway was the Unitarian minister in Cincinnati. About to be married, he wished Dr. Furness to go out and perform the decided to give the young blacksmith a chance to try his wings. He told his trustees that he would like to be gone for two Sundays, but that if they were dissatisfied with the supply they could send him word

could stay as long as he pleased Soon the young preacher went to Chicago and took charge of a new bit of mission work. It grew, as all the world till Dr. Collyer became a figure tall enough

But the word they did send him was that he

In 1873 Newman Hall, the famous preache of London, was in this country lecturing. of the tariff board, now defunct be He was raising money to build a tower for cause the Democratic House cut off its his church, which as an appeal to our appropriation. He was to lecture in Chicago, and I with hall. It was a wild and stormy day. After we were gathered a telegram came saying the speaker would be an hour late. The manager was in despair. How could a would be "to gather, tabulate, digest rowd like that sit still and wait in silence for and report technical and statistical facts a solid hour? Then he spied Mr. Collyer pertinent to the tariff schedules for the him weeding his little potato patch; and came and asked him if he would not the kitchen his wife is busy over the help him out. Then I, for one, was amazed at the readiness and power of this man. He climbed to the platform and spoke for an hour till Dr. Hall'sarrival was announced another, the oldest, is trudging along And his address was so fine, so entertains way to the little schoolhouse down ing, so strong that the lecturer that came after him was a complete anti-climax. legislation to this end should be enacted. The audience would have had more than by Congress. The necessity for such its money's worth if Dr. Hall had been five

> Such was he in the old days! Who else ould have done it? M. J. SAVAGE. could have done it? NEW YORK, December 3.

hours late instead of one.

CHRISTMAS BLACKMAIL. A Familiar Method of Extracting the

Jollity From the Festival. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Som the writer was in conversation with a friend about a custom which is generally practised this time of year on those employed in factories.

In the factory where my friend works are a large number of little girls and boys whose wages do not exceed \$3 or \$4 a week. Sub-foremen and women so employed, and "a sucker" because of subservient and underhanded methods of gaining favor, make it a practice to go among the poor creatures of the fat \$3 a week envelope future revision. with a paper, asking for contributions to buy the boss a present

The victims are really threatened with that paper, and have to put up at least 50 cents for the boss. Then come the collectors, who are generally favored persons. Again the poor kids have to come across this factory are men with families making as high as \$9 or \$10 a week. They have to bill was as bad as the Dingley bill. "and ante up. Last year the wife of one boss went factory and requested one of the committee "to be sure not to buy any more chairs for the boss, as they had more than they knew what to do with." I have forgotten just what was needed most at that time; probably a piano. When the poor defenceless things, fearful of their jobs, go to their homes the Saturday before Christmas Day they were broke and in tears. How cruel this rotten system! How cruel this rotten beastly! An honest person could not ac cept a present from such a source, and the owners, directors and officials of a concern

which permits such "Christmas gifts" car The particular factory where all this hap pened is in New Haven, Conn., but the cus tom is common in many factories through-

out the country. Is this not a good time to get busy? ems to me that through the new labor unions and civic societies this pernicious custom could be stopped.

NEW YORK, December 3.

"The Sun's" Medical Articles. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir:

To the Editor of the Sun-Sir: Permit me to voice the sentiments of, I am confident, many thousands of your readers in complimenting your editorial writer on medical and physiological subjects upon the excellence of his articles in clarity of diction and instructiveness for both the strongest leaders of the Democratic party seneral and the professional reader. Here, in the untulning and emotional for a radical, drastic and even retinal for a radical and even retinal for a radica general and the professional reader. He cerainly possesses the rare gift of conveying useful knowledge with the smallest possible employment of technical terms, a gift many professional writers would do well to try to

NEW YORK, December 2.

Justice Goff's Nomination. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Was Judge Goff ever nominated by Tammany Hall for Jus-tice of the Supreme Court? HENRY NOE.

John W. Goff, then Recorder, was nominated by Tammany Hall for Justice of the Supreme Court on October 10, 1906, and elected in the following November.

German Census. From the Westminster Gasette. A German paper gives some interesting details the last census, taken on December 1, 1910.

There were only 1,259,873 foreigners in German at this date and more than half of these were German speaking. The census takes account of religion, and in 1910 there were 39,391,421 Evangelicals, that is to say Lutherans, and 23.821.453 Roman Catholics in Germany. Other Protestant sects contributed about a quarter of a million and the Jews 618.021, while only 2.114 described themselves as belonging to other non-Christian sects. The number of married people shows an increase, and the number of bachelors and widowed persons a decrease. The percentage married persons in 1910 was 54.25, as compared with 53.18 in 1900. The number of widows and widowers declined from 8.58 to 8.05. Since 1871, taking the whole population, the numb married persons has increased by a per con-But the birth rate shows a proportional decline. The fact that people between 60 and 70 number 14.65 per cent. of the population, while young people under 10 number only 11.12 and those married persons has increased by 2 per cen young between 20 and 30 10.08, is a clear evidence that birth rate shows the same tendency in Ger many as in France and England.

Buckwheats and Salt Pork Stew. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Up in A range county, where I hall from, there warn'

maw just started the thing off with turn pike made out of taters and unbolted meal, and then after that the emptins from one day to another was enough for the risin. While on the subject of "eats," did you ever on a cold winter's day taste salt pork stew plenty of passnips in the same?

MANNING TUTTLE. One Time of JOHNSONS, Orange county, N. Y.

A Clothes Call.

I bought some clothes, and truth to tell It very soon occurred to me That suit was made, alas!-to sell-The test of gullibility!

The trousers sadly want repairs, They are not what they should have been My cry is now, "Tears, idle tears, I know exactly what they mean!" So come, my spouse, with finger sheath,

Come, partner of my joys and woes Come, armed like Curtius to the teeth, And bid the yawning chasms close! LA TOUCHE HANCOCK.

ROBERT COLLYER. Reminiscences by Minot J. Savage COMMISSION URGED FOR TARIFF REVISION

Association Representing 180 Boards of Trade Suggests Permanent Body.

Present System Fitted to Throw Dust in Voters' Eyes, Says President.

Scientific non-partisan tariff revision under the guidance of a permanent commission responsible both to Congress and to the President was demanded vesterday by the directors of the National Tariff Commission Association. The association represents 180 boards of trade in forty-four States. It was formed hree years ago and was largely responsible for President Taft's appointment of the tariff board, now defunct be-

The sort of a tariff commission which the association has in mind is indicated in a resolution passed by the director who met in the rooms of the Merchant Association. The commission's duties continuing use of Congress in the framing of tariff laws, and for the guidance of the President in passing upon tariff bills and in negotiating commercial treaties with other nations

"We urge," says the resolution, "that commission is imperative, whether or not the tariff is to be immediately revised upon information procurable by existing methods."

The members of the association feel that President Taft's tariff board deserves praise, but was doomed to failure from the start. Said John Candler Cobb of Boston, president of the association: "Congress is the tariff making body and no commission or board can fulfil

its destiny until it is squarely and fully accepted by Congress as a part of its tariff making machinery. Notwithstanding its anomalous position, the board during its short life produced reports on cer tain schedules which, however they may be criticised, are admittedly the most comprehensive reports that have ever been made, and it is safe to say that they will be studied and considered in any Mr. Cobb said the present tariff making

system is absurd-he was sure of that after long study. It is eminently fitted to throw dust in the eyes of the voters and give them what they did not vote for he said. He thought Democrats and Republicans equally guilty-the Wilson the present Democratic House, while railing at its Republican predecessor for the Payne-Aldrich trade, proceeded to trade its tariff bills through the Senate

in the same old way." "Congress," Mr. Cobb said, "is not likely to change the system except through the force of a public opinion s general and so unequivocal as to be ir-

esistible.

"High protection" he added, "is a remendous stimulus to industrial development, and the lowering of duties tends to industrial contraction. That many reducions can be made to the distinct advantage of the country without serious injury to the universe of the country is the very gen. industrial contraction. business of the country is the very general belief, in which I concur. But as in war an orderly retreat is the most difficult manœuvre, so the Democratic party is faced with the most difficult and

complex tariff problem that has been presented in our generation.

"We are faced with conditions which may well be viewed with alarm. The widespread feeling that our present tariff has many features which are unjusted and burdensome naturally results in and burdensome naturally results in demand from the unthinking and emo

fully appreciate the conditions and stand for an orderly and careful revision. "To hew to the line and give such proper reductions as are demanded by the counreductions as are demanded by the country without overstepping it and causing business unrest and calamity is a difficult but not impossible task. To bring this about is the desire of every thinking man in the country. It can never be brought about by personal appeals for protection by interested individuals to Congressmen, who properly distrust them, and can only be accomplished by a general public discussion and analysis of proposed legislation and the methods of Congress, in which our association is peculiarly positoned

our association is peculiarly positoned Mr. Cobb's views were formally in-dorsed by the other directors. In order to impress them upon the new Congress the national tariff commission will hold to impress them upon the new Congress the national tariff commission will hold its annual convention in Washington soon after the opening of the extrassession, to be called by President Wilson. In addition to Mr. Cobb the directors who attended yesterday's meeting were. J. J. Culberson of Texas, Charles M. Jarvis, president of the American Hardware Corporation, New Britain, Conn., Alba B. Johnson, president of the Baldwin Locomotive Works, Philadelphia. John Kirby, Jr., president of the National Manufacturers Association; H. E. Miles of the Racine Settley Company, Racine, Wis.; D. M. Parry of the Parry Automobile Company, Indianapolis; Dr. E. V. Robinson of the University of Minnesota, Francis T. Simmons of Francis T

SAY WYOMING IS ALL RIGHT.

Officers Deny Report That Big War ship's Plates Are Defective. Reports that the armor plates of the new superdreadnought Wyoming, which

is in dry dock at the Brooklyn navy yard, were of such poor quality as to be called "rotten" were denied yesterday by officers of the yard. It had been said that many of the larger plates must be removed and that it would necessitate her remaining at the yard for A naval constructor in charge of the

repairs said that one plate in the barbette was found about a month ago to be defective and was at once removed. The company which furnished the armor was notified and a new plate was forwarded to take its place. As to why the Wyoming is still in dry dock, it was said that when she left she was built, she was not quite fin-

the Cramp yards in Philadelphia, where ished, but the Navy Department wanted her to take part in the review here and it was agreed that she should have the rest of the work done in the Brooklyn yard. It is expected that she will be ready to go to sea in a few weeks.